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23 JUL 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Research  
and Development, DDR

THROUGH: Acting Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT: Map and Chart Destruct System

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for concurrence by the Acting Deputy Director (Research). Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 6.

2. At a meeting called by General Doolittle in his capacity as Special Advisor to the President, the subject of destruct systems was thoroughly reviewed. At the conclusion of this meeting, General Doolittle stated that the ultimate goal for all concerned is to completely destroy beyond recognition the entire vehicle involved in covert reconnaissance, but since this degree of destruction implies use of nuclear energy, it must be considered out of the question at this time. He then stated that as a matter of first priority, destruct systems must be developed and employed to deny information to hostile elements which could be gained from maps, charts and payload systems.

3. Considerable development work has been accomplished on the destruction of maps and charts through the medium of water soluble papers. In spite of the efforts expended by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation (LAC), Technical Services Division (TSD) and the Aeronautical Chart and Information Center (ACIC), at this time the system is not available for use in the IDEALIST or OXCART programs. Certain technical aspects of the system require continued development work, and closer monitoring of the program is essential.

4. An allied destruct problem within the OXCART program is the destruction of the primary navigation system's 35 MM film strips. This requirement was formally established on 9 August 1962, and sporadic efforts have been made to develop this capability; however, to date, a satisfactory destruct system is not available.

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Control System

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5. It is suggested that the Office of Research and Development (ORD/DDR) has the technical capability to continue this development program to a successful conclusion. Assumption of this program by ORD will allow an "in house" supervision of development and testing in order that an operational capability can be expedited, and it should be noted that [ ] formerly with TSD and now a member of ORD, has the necessary clearances and field trip experience to aggressively continue with this program.

6. It is recommended that ORD complete development and testing of map and film destruct systems for the Office of Special Activities in accordance with the following time schedule:

a. IDEALIST: Map and chart destruct system as soon as possible on a first priority basis.

b. OXCART: Map and chart, and 35 MM film strip destruct systems complete by 1 October 1963.

(Signed) Jack C. Ledford

JACK C. LEDFORD  
Colonel USAF  
Assistant Director  
(Special Activities)

CONCUR:

Original signed by  
F. B. Giller

ADD/R

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